

Message Text

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ORIGIN TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 NEA-10 IO-10 H-02 L-03 PRS-01

PA-01 USIA-06 CEA-01 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 /102 R

DRAFTED BY EA/LC:JDROSENTHAL:DTM

APPROVED BY EA:RHMILLER

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P R 121948Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY MANILA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 217576

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, LA

SUBJECT: CALL BY LAO CHARGE

REF: STATE 211241

MANILA FOR USADB

1. LAO CHARGE KHAMSOUK CHANTHADARA CALLED ON DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY MILLER SEPTEMBER 11. THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE CALL WAS TO "CLARIFY" US POSITION RE NAM NGUM II FOR VISITING FINANCE MINISTER LEUAM RAJASOMBATH, NOW IN NEW YORK. KHAMSOUK INDICATED HE AND MINISTER HAD HEARD VIA AFP STORY THAT US PARTICIPATION HAD BEEN CANCELLED, BUT THEY WERE UNCLEAR AS TO WHETHER THIS MEANT ONLY FUTURE AID OR ALSO CURRENT FIVE MILLION DOLLAR COMMITMENT.

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2- MILLER INFORMED KHAMSOUK ALONG LINES OF REFTTEL, CON-

FIRMING THAT WE WERE TERMINATING OUR PARTICIPATION COMPLETELY IN PROJECT, INCLUDING FIVE MILLION DOLLAR LOAN. HE INDICATED THAT WE HAD INFORMED LAO VIA THEIR DELEGATION TO ADB IN MANILA, SINCE THIS APPEARED TO US MOST LOGICAL WAY TO NOTIFY ALL PARTICIPANTS, INCLUDING THE BANK. MILLER ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT IN WITHDRAWING OUR PARTICIPATION, WE DID NOT WISH TO PREJUDICE ACTIONS OF

OTHER DONORS WHO MAY WISH TO CONTINUE WITH PROJECT.

3. KHAMSOUK INQUIRED ABOUT FUTURE PROSPECTS FOR RESUMING AID TO LAOS. MILLER REPLIED THAT IN LIGHT OF RECENT EVENTS, ENTIRE AID QUESTION REMAINS UNDER REVIEW BUT THAT PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES ARE NOT CONDUCIVE TO SERIOUS CONSIDERATION OF RESUMPTION AT THIS TIME. AT KHAMSOUK'S REQUEST, MILLER ALSO EXPLAINED PROVISION OF CONTINUING RESOLUTION AUTHORITY PROHIBITING AID TO ALL INDOCHINA COUNTRIES, INCLUDING LAOS. HE INDICATED THIS WAS PROVISIONAL LEGISLATION AND THAT FINAL LEGISLATION WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE PASSED FOR AT LEAST SEVERAL WEEKS, AND WE COULD NOT SAY WHETHER PROHIBITION WOULD ALSO BE INCLUDED THEREIN.

4. KHAMSOUK INQUIRED ABOUT AMBASSADOR STONE'S PLANS. MILLER RESPONDED THAT STONE'S DEPARTURE HAD BEEN DELAYED AND THAT HE WOULD BE CHAIRING A SELECTION BOARD IN DEPARTMENT FOR AT LEAST SEVERAL WEEKS. KHAMSOUK SAID HE HAD RECEIVED NO WORD ON AGREEMENT FOR, OR ARRIVAL OF, THE NEW LAO AMBASSADOR TO THE US. HE IMPLIED THAT WHILE THE FORMER MIGHT BE FORTHCOMING SHORTLY, THE LATTER MAY POSSIBLY AWAIT STONE'S DEPARTURE FOR VIENTIANE.

5. REGARDING TENTATIVE APPOINTMENT WE HAD FIXED FOR LAO IMF/UNGA DELEGATION TO MEET WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB SEPTEMBER 15, KHAMSOUK SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO CANCEL THIS APPOINTMENT SINCE DELEGATION WAS DEPARTING FOR PARIS SEPTEMBER 12. KISSINGER

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